



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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25 APRIL 1966

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1. South Vietnam

The Hué "struggle group" seems to be relaxing its hold over the city, although it has said it will continue twice-daily broadcasts. Primary schools reopened this morning, and many of the most violent anti-Ky and anti-US banners have been taken down.

There was one demonstration in Hué this afternoon--to denounce the Viet Cong for killing civilians in last night's mortar attack, which completely missed the airport it was aimed at.

In Saigon, reaction has been mild to the replacement last week of the national police chief. Several cabinet members had earlier threatened to resign if Ky took this step.

2. North Vietnam

Hanoi's naval units appear to be stepping up their activity.

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3. Communist China

Satellite photography of 15-18 April has turned up visual evidence of the three earthquakes which shook the North China plain in March.

The three epicenters can be clearly distinguished very close together in the alluvial soil about 150 miles south of Peking. Damage to buildings, agriculture, irrigation canals, and transport routes occurred in an area of more than 6,000 square miles.

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[redacted] destruction may have been extensive in this farming area with a population density of some 800 to 1,000 per square mile.

4. Communist China

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5. Indonesia

Anti-Chinese feeling is rising among the rabid Moslems in northern Sumatra, despite army efforts to tone this down. Overseas Chinese have been hounded through the streets, stripped, and then painted red. Our consul in Medan feels that indignities of this sort are child's play compared to the major anti-Chinese riots he fears are coming.

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6. Cambodia

Sihanouk says he will shortly join with representatives of North Vietnam and the Liberation Front for South Vietnam in a "summit meeting." Its purpose, according to Sihanouk, will be to sign agreements on peaceful coexistence, fraternity, and mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity.

The Cambodian prince has been moving his country closer to the Vietnamese Communists for some time now, and it could be that the groundwork has been laid for reaching some sort of an understanding over Cambodia's borders with Vietnam, long a major Sihanouk objective. There has been no hard evidence of this from Hanoi, however.

7. Tanzania

Communist zealots on Zanzibar are clamoring for the closing of the US Consulate.

Egged on by Bloc and Chinese representatives, they have already closed down the US library and forced the removal of another American officer. They have now cooked up "evidence" linking Consul Pickering with a plot to restore Arab rule and are pressing for his scalp too.

Besides embarrassing the Americans, tactics such as these tend to frustrate President Nyerere's efforts to consolidate the two-year-old union of Tanganyika and Zanzibar.

8. Congo

Ambassador Godley says he is cautiously optimistic about the Congo.

He feels that the political and security situation right now is better than at any time in the past five years. Part of this is due to the fact that for the first time since 1960 no other African regime is actively interfering on behalf of the rebels, whose activities are now relatively confined.

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